

SENATE BILL 2159
By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 1;
Title 16 and Title 57, relative to underage
purchase, attempt to purchase, possession,
transportation, or consumption, of beer or
alcoholic beverages.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 1-3-113(b), is amended by adding as
a new subsection (c) the following language:

(c) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the offenses of underage
purchasing, possession, transportation, or consumption of alcoholic beverages, wine or
beer, if committed by any person who is eighteen (18) years of age or older and less
than twenty-one (21) years of age, are Class C misdemeanors.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 57-3-412(a)(3), is amended by
adding at the end of subdivision (B) the following language:

, provided, however, that a violation of subdivision (a)(1)(3)(A) by any person
who is eighteen (18) years of age or older and less than twenty-one (21) years of age is
a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 57-3-412(a)(5), is amended by
adding at the end of subdivision (B) the following language:

, provided, however, that a violation of this subdivision (a)(5) by any person who
is eighteen (18) years of age or older and less than twenty-one (21) years of age is a
Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 57-4-203(b)(2), is amended by
deleting subdivision (A) and by substituting instead the following:

(A) Purchases, attempts to purchase, receives, or has in such person's possession in any public place, any alcoholic beverage, commits a Class A misdemeanor, unless such offense is committed by any person eighteen (18) years of age or older and less than twenty-one (21) years of age, in which case such offense is a Class C misdemeanor;

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 57-4-203(b)(2), is amended by deleting subdivision (B) and by substituting instead the following:

(B) Knowingly makes a false statement or exhibits false identification to the effect that the licensee is twenty-one (21) years of age or older to any person engaged in the sale of alcoholic beverages for the purpose of purchasing or obtaining the same commits a Class A misdemeanor, unless such false statement or exhibition of false identification is committed by any person eighteen (18) years of age or older and less than twenty-one (21) years of age, in which case such offense is a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 57-5-301(d)(1), is amended by adding at the end of subdivision (A) the following language:

; provided, however, that the purchase or attempt to purchase, if committed by any person eighteen (18) years of age or older and less than twenty-one (21) years of age, is a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 57-5-301(e), is amended by adding at the end of subdivision (2) the following language:

; provided, however, that a violation of subdivision (e)(1), if committed by any person eighteen (18) years of age or older and less than twenty-one (21) years of age, is a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.